

In The Specification

In the first paragraph 1, on page 3, please amend the specification to read as follows:

The invention is a windshield that works synergistically in concert with a gas pilot light assembly, which also has components that provide some protection from high air flow; wherein the windshield and pilot light assembly are an apparatus that ensures the dependable operation of a burner, and specifically the reliable operation of a brooder heater burner in high air flow conditions. The pilot assembly, which is mounted proximal to the burner, is comprised of a pilot light; a pilot light orifice; a vented pilot housing (stack) with a flame deflector cap; a pilot light gas line; a thermocouple with connecting electrical leads; a pilot base; a mounting bracket; and a pilot assembly windshield. The vented pilot housing can also have a thermocouple restrictor plate, which shields the thermocouple from updrafts and directs the flame toward the thermocouple. The restrictor plate ensures that the thermocouple is heated, and prevents an errant signal causing the gas supply line to close. The windshield, which is substantially a partially perforated tubular chamber, has an open top and an open bottom, and at least one surrounding side wall that provides a shield against side winds, wherein the at least one surrounding side wall has a section that is partially perforated and a section that is solid, and the chamber is sufficient in size to entirely shields the gas pilot light assembly. The windshield is intersectingly slid onto the mounting bracket, provides a protected zone of air infusion for both the pilot flame and for the thermocouple. The mounting bracket is preferably slotted such that the windshield can be positioned by merely aligning the windshield with the slots on the mounting bracket, and sliding the windshield into the slots, or removed by merely sliding the windshield off the slots. The configuration enables the quick removal and replacement of the windshield. Likewise, the vented pilot housing can be simply lifted off the pilot base, enabling quick access to the pilot light orifice so that it can be easily cleaned. The easy removal of both the windshield and the vented housing reduces the servicing time, and in general results in a maintenance friendly brooder. Another feature of the apparatus is that the windshield need not be removed to ignite the pilot

light. The pilot assembly can have either a vertical or a horizontal orientation or any angle in between. The pilot light flame is directed by the flame deflector cap and the restrictor plate so that it is very close or actually impinges the thermocouple.